

Translation of a cyclostyled and undated M.C.P. document received from an unknown source entitled "Extend Propaganda and start the struggle to oppose the Man-Power Mobilisation Regulations". ( 展開宣傳發動鬥爭反對人力動員法令 )

I. Why do the British Imperialists all of a sudden promulgate the "Man-Power Mobilisation Regulations" for compulsory drafting of youths.

(1) When the British Imperialists began the colonial war their confidence in their own strength was legendary, but they have suffered militarily, politically and economically for three years and are now changing their tactics. They have been driven to drafting youths into the services by the introduction of the Man-Power Mobilisation Regulations, so enabling them to replace their losses in man-power in Malaya and to avoid transferring troops from other war fronts.

(2) Under the guidance of U.S.S.R. socialism, peace and democracy in Asia is more powerful than capitalism under the American Imperialists. Therefore, in spite of growing friction between the two countries, the British Imperialists have perforce had to agree with America's policy in order to receive aid for protecting their interests in Asia and for their post-war difficulties, despite protests from the British people.

Since the outbreak of the Korean War, which was started by the American Imperialists, the international situation has got worse and the Imperialists led by U.S.A. are now busily preparing for war. In order to expand their preparations for further aggression, they now wish to allow Japan and West Germany to re-arm and have concluded a pact with North Atlantic countries, with a unified command of the West European forces. They are now preparing a pact with Pacific countries and an anti-Communist American Front to dominate UNO.

Britain is bound to follow the American Imperialists' lead and in order to do so she has had to bring the Man-Power Mobilisation Regulations into force. When World War III starts she is going to be faced with the problem of sending conscripts to attack the New Democratic countries.

(3) The resettlement of villages and the regrouping of workers in the tin mines and rubber estates, already attempted by the Japanese during the occupation period, will result in like failure after a waste of money and man-power.

(4) In other capitalist countries students are not called up for national service until their studies have been completed, but in Malaya the British Imperialists are so short of troops, and so anxious to stamp out the dangerous elements in the national education, particularly among the Chinese students, that they are ignoring the normal principles regarding education.

II. The British Imperialists' compulsory drafting of youths is bound to produce evil results.

(1) In bringing in the Man-Power Regulations the British Imperialists are bound to stir up further dis-satisfaction and opposition among the people, who already hate this colonial war and all that it has brought to them and their country.

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(2) The British Imperialists are the losers by forcing these regulations on the people, who will all the more readily embrace M.C.P. and M.R.L.A. ideals. The M.C.P. policy is to strive for a people's democracy and to establish a new society by ridding Malaya of the British Imperialists and their underlings, and to bring ultimate peace to the people in Malaya.

(3) Economically the British Imperialists are making a mistake by calling up men from productive work to become "consumers".

(4) Generally speaking members of the Army and Police Force are good fellows, but they are compelled by force of circumstances to serve the British Imperialists, and the policy of kind and generous treatment meted out to British Imperialist captives by the M.R.L.A. has had a marked effect on them, and they now realise their mistake. Now the British Imperialists are forcing the people to fight against the M.R.L.A., but by doing so they are paving the way for final victory for the people.

### III. Will the British introduce compulsory conscription in Singapore?

As pointed out a long time ago, the British Imperialists in due course will certainly introduce compulsory mobilisation regulations, but in the meantime it is a voluntary registration for the following reasons:-

(i) The British Imperialists are endeavouring to give the impression that Singapore, a large city, is also a peaceful one, but only 700 Europeans have so far put their name down, and most of them saw service in World War II.

(ii) As a result of the failure of the call-up in the Federation, the British Imperialists do not want to run the risk of another failure in Singapore.

(iii) Lack of preparation and personnel to run the Man-Power Bureau prevented them from enforcing conscription quickly.

Therefore, the British Imperialists must launch their attacks against racial education and the students, who have been very active in Singapore ever since the Emergency, and the Students' Movement in Singapore has united the students and made them politically minded. All these facts are known to the British Imperialists and make them all the more determined to attack the students.

### IV. Extend propaganda and start the struggle.

While the British Imperialists are so powerful, we are quite unable to undermine conscription totally - experiences in the Federation confirm this - but we must not give up the struggle. By banding together and by extending our propaganda we might be able to slow-up the regulations and thereby score a moral victory over the British Imperialists, but obviously we can never hope to wreck the enforcement of the regulation entirely. By our political education of the masses, the British Imperialists will find it difficult to carry out enforced conscription owing to demands for higher pay, go-slow tactics once in the services, and desertion to the M.R.L.A.

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V. Rectifying some of those improper view points.

(i) In an attempt to avoid conscription, some comrades have misguidedly joined the Ambulance Brigade, a branch of the Civil Defence Service, which is part of the Man-Power organisation. Such actions lower the prestige of our organisation and our comrades run the risk of being influenced by the British Imperialists.

(ii) Do not be deceived by British Imperialistic propaganda into thinking that conscription means being drafted into the Police or Civil Defence Service only - after all Police and Civil Defence Service work means service under the Imperialists in their war against the revolutionaries. The first batch of conscripts will be trained for such work, and when the British Imperialists stage World War III these men will be sent to serve as cannon fodder.

(iii) Some think that in view of the hopeless task ahead of us, in trying to block these regulations, we should give up the struggle and as a result they are carrying out their tasks in a perfunctory manner, and failing to extend propaganda. This is defeatism and must be stopped. We must carry on the struggle whether the results achieved are big or small and by doing so we shall raise the morale of the people and partially undermine the British Imperialists' regulations.

(iv) The masses must be encouraged, not over criticised, in their attempt to help, thereby gaining confidence in themselves, and they will then go from strength to strength in their efforts to help the revolution.

(v) The suggestion that the masses should allow themselves to be conscripted, trained and given arms, and then when opportunity arises desert to the M.R.L.A., is not a good one. It would mean abandoning the political education of the masses and waiting until they became progressive and victory in the revolution achieved.

VI. How to extend the work of propaganda?

With conscription in sight we must fight it, and in order to establish a firm foundation for our struggle, we must actively carry out verbal propaganda on the following lines:-

1. By exploitation and oppression the British Imperialists are robbing the people of their human rights and are now going a step further by conscripting the youths to serve as cannon fodder.

2. The aims of the British Imperialists, by enforcing the regulations are:-

(i) Having failed to suppress the revolution after 3 years war, they are now disregarding the protests of the entire Malayan population by conscripting men to help them to fight the M.R.L.A.

(ii) By following the American Imperialists' policy of aggression to launch World War III, and so satisfy the ambition of imperialist countries to conquer the world, the British are conscripting Malayan youths to act as their tools of aggression.

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3. We must protest against this plot by the British Imperialists because -

(i) we all love peace and freedom;

(ii) the war in Malaya, which is being waged by the British Imperialists is an unjust war and nobody wants to kill their own compatriots;

(iii) Although to-day those conscripted will fight the revolution, to-morrow they may be sent overseas to fight for the British Imperialists in World War III against the new democratic countries, and no one wants to kill law-abiding people;

(iv) to die for Mother China is glorious but to die fighting for the British Imperialists is a disgrace.

4. There are only two ways of looking at this state of affairs; one to help the Imperialists and so suffer disgrace, the other to resist the Imperialists and so uphold your ideals. The latter is the correct viewpoint.

(i) Some people consider that by joining the Ambulance Brigade they are avoiding conscription, but this organisation renders service to the Imperialists on the battlefield and who is going to doubt the fact that, when hard pressed, the Imperialists will not force this Brigade to fight?

(ii) To ask the Imperialists to delay conscription is a waste of time. They may do so for a small section of the community in order to create a good impression, but in the end no one will escape.

(iii) To sneak away to China is cowardly and the struggle against British Imperialistic aggression will still have to be faced.

(iv) To-day the youths in Malaya are all suffering the same fate. They must inflexibly struggle against the British Imperialists and so hasten their downfall. To care for one's future is to be selfish.

5. We must, therefore, evade conscription as long as possible, but, if forced to join up, do not report for duty; go to prison cheerfully; for it is up to the youths of Malaya to unite and resolutely struggle against the British Imperialists and so make it possible to smash the enemy.